

HEARST ABDUCTION PRECEDED BY MAN'S

NYTimes FEB 7 1974
He Later Got Free After His
Car Was Used for Girl

NYTimes
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Special to The New York Times

BERKELEY, Calif., Feb. 6—

Two kidnappings, not one, were committed here Monday night and two white women, not one, helped the two black men who abducted 19-year-old Patricia Hearst in the second kidnapping, investigative sources said today.

The first kidnapping was of Peter Benenson, 31, a mathematician employed at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory at the University of California, the police said. He was left tied in his car after it was used in the abduction of Miss Hearst. He untied himself and walked away before the police found his car.

Mr. Benenson's name entered the investigation yesterday when the police said it was his 1963 convertible that had been used to take away Miss Hearst, one of the five daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Apperson Hearst. Her father is president and editor of The San Francisco Examiner and chairman of the board of the Hearst Corporation.

Seized at Apartment

Miss Hearst was taken screaming from her apartment near the university campus at about 9:20 P.M. Monday by two black men and a white woman. Her fiancé, Steven A. Weed, 26, tried to rescue her and was beaten until he was semiconscious.

The police said there had been no demand for ransom or other contact from the kidnapers. A family spokesman said there had been crank calls that needed to be checked out. Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation said they had investigated leads that they did not describe.

The Berkeley police circulated photos of persons sought for questioning, including some identified with militant political organizations.

Yesterday the police said

they had found Mr. Benenson's convertible abandoned a few blocks from the building in which Miss Hearst lived.

In early reports, the police said they feared for Mr. Benenson's safety because evidence indicated he might have been assaulted. The police found two sacks of groceries in his car, and another sack and its contents scattered around his driveway. Later, the police said Mr. Benenson had been found at his sister's home, where he spent the night.

Questioned and Released

Today the police said Mr. Benenson had been questioned and released and insisted that he wanted to avoid news interviews. They said that he had been attacked, forced into his car, driven to Miss Hearst's address, bound and gagged and put on the floor of the car where he heard the commotion, including gunfire, and then was left in the car when it was abandoned.

Mr. Benenson did not see the faces of the kidnapers, investigative sources said.

After the kidnapers left him alone in the car, Mr. Benenson, badly frightened by their threats, untied himself. He was reportedly so intimidated by the threats that he failed to notify the police of what had happened.

Instead of going home, he walked more than a mile to his sister's home.

Two white women, one armed, attacked Mr. Benenson as he was removing his grocery shopping bags from his car, an F.B.I. official said today, in confirming a report published in The Oakland Tribune.

Reportedly Not a Witness

From the time he was bound and gagged and put face down in the back of the car, Mr. Benenson was not a witness to much that happened, the F.B.I. said.

Other investigative sources said it appeared that the second woman had remained outside during the kidnapping of Miss Hearst. Then she drove one of the two cars that the authorities believe were used—the convertible in whose trunk Miss Hearst was taken away, and a white station wagon that followed the convertible. The authorities believe the bound-and-gagged girl was transferred to the station wagon, which was the eventual getaway car.